GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6057
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2002
PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT IN AGRA
RAMESH CHAND TOMAR;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether even after the closure of all polluting industries in Agra, there has not been any significant drop either in SPM level or SO2 percentage in the environment of Agra;

(b) if so, the details of various reports of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government have chalked out any concrete plans to re-examine the various aspects toprovide clean environment in and around Taj; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) Central Pollution Control Board has been regularly monitoring the levels of pollution in Agra which indicate that there is a trend of reduction in the annual average level of Sulphur dioxide, Oxides of Nitrogen and Suspended Particulate Matter over the past years. Several steps have been taken for protection of the Taj Mahal which include the following: -

1. A Taj Trapezium Zone Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority has been constituted by the Government of India in 1999 to monitor the progress of the implementation of the various schemes for the protection and improvement of the environment in the Taj Trapezium Zone.

2. A Mission Management Board has been constituted to oversee the implementation & monitor the schemes for the protection of the Taj and its environment.

3. Schemes for continuous air quality monitoring, improvement of power supply, water supply, solid waste management, road construction and plantation in the TTZ area have been undertaken to provide clean environment in and around Taj.